Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method of using a data processing system for processing travelers crossing international borders, comprising:

a[.]) prior to the time of travel, employing the data processing system to enroll ~~enrolling~~ a traveler to utilize an automated check-in process; and

b[.]) at the time of travel, utilizing ~~an~~ the automated check-in process to complete activities necessary to enable an international border crossing.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 1, wherein step a[.]) includes:

obtaining an image of a travel document; and

comparing the image to an image on file with an enrollment official.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 2, wherein

the ~~obtaining~~ step of obtaining the image includes scanning the travel document to obtain a digital image; and

the ~~comparing~~ step of comparing the image includes comparing the digital image to a digital image on file with the enrollment official.

4. **(Original)** The method of Claim 3, wherein the travel document is selected from the group consisting of passports and Official Travel Documents (OTDs).

5. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 2, wherein step a[.]) includes

collecting unique identification indicia from the traveler for use in performing identification verification on ~~the~~ a day of travel.

6. **(Original)** The method of Claim 5, wherein the identification indicia includes biometric data.

7. **(Original)** The method of Claim 6, wherein the biometric data is selected from a group consisting of handwriting samples, iris scans, hand or finger geometry, facial scans, facial geometry measurements, hand scans, fingerprint samples, physical measurements, and voice samples.

8. **(Original)** The method of Claim 5, wherein the biometric data includes at least two different types of biometric samples.

9. **(Original)** The method of Claim 5, and further including storing the identification indicia for use during the automated check-in process.

10. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 9, wherein step b**[.]**) includes

retrieving the ~~record~~ the stored identification indicia;

collecting unique identification indicia from the traveler; and

automatically comparing the ~~collected~~unique identification indicia to the stored identification indicia to verify identity of the traveler.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 10, wherein the retrieving ~~step~~ of the stored identification indicia includes:

scanning a travel document; and

using information on the travel document to retrieve the stored identification indicia.

12. **(Original)** The method of Claim 10, and further including automatically verifying that the traveler's itinerary qualifies the user to use the automated check-in process.

13. **(Original)** The method of Claim 10, and further including automatically prompting the traveler to electronically complete at least one questionnaire required for the international border crossing.

14. **(Original)** The method of Claim 13, and further including checking the at least one completed questionnaire to determine whether the traveler is eligible to utilize an automated clearance process after the international border has been crossed.

15. **(Original)** The method of Claim 10, and further including automatically printing documents to allow the traveler to embark on the international border crossing.

16. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein the automated check-in process is performed on a self-service kiosk.

17. **(Currently amended)** The method of Claim 1, and including performing one or more automated checks to determine whether the traveler poses any risk to ~~the~~ a country of destination.

18. **(Original)** The method of Claim 17, wherein the checks are selected from the group consisting of a criminal check, a terrorist check, an agricultural check, and an immigration check.

19. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 17, and further including, ~~after the international border crossing has been completed~~, at the country of destination, utilizing an automated clearance process to allow the traveler to enter ~~a~~ the country.

20. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 19, wherein the automated clearance process includes:

verifying the identity of the traveler;

obtaining results of the one or more automated checks;

if any of the one or more automated checks failed, requiring the traveler to undergo a manual clearance process; and

if all of the automated checks passed, allowing the user to enter the country of destination without undergoing the manual clearance process.

21. **(Original)** The method of Claim 20, and further including enabling an automated

exit gate to allow a user to enter the country of destination.

22. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 10, wherein the ~~storing~~ step of storing the identification indicia includes creating a secure token storing the identification indicia.

23. **(Currently Amended)** A system for performing automated processing of a traveler crossing an international border, comprising:

a data processing system to enroll a traveler to use an automated check-in procedure; and

a first user interaction system coupled to the data processing system to provide the automated check-in procedure that automatically initiates activities necessary to allow the traveler to cross the international border.

24. **(Original)** The system of Claim 23, and further including a second user interaction system coupled to the data processing system to provide an automated clearance procedure that automatically initiates activities necessary to allow the traveler to enter a country of destination after the international border has been crossed.

25. **(Original)** The system of Claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and the second user interaction systems are self-service kiosks.

26. **(Original)** The system of Claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and the

second user interaction systems includes at least one biometric reader to read biometric samples from the traveler.

27. **(Original)** The system of Claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and the second user interaction systems includes a scanner to scan travel documents.

28. **(Original)** The system of Claim 24, wherein the first user interaction system obtains data from the traveler that is required to allow entry into the country of destination.

29. **(Original)** The system of Claim 28, wherein at least one of the data processing system and the first user interaction system includes means for checking the data to determine whether the traveler is allowed to utilize the second user interaction system to complete the automated clearance procedure.

30. **(Original)** The system of Claim 29, wherein at least one of the data processing system and the first and second user interaction systems includes means to initiate automated checks to determine whether the traveler poses any threat to the country of destination.

31. **(Original)** A system for managing the crossing of an international border by a traveler, comprising:

enrollment means for enrolling the traveler in an automated travel process; and

automated user interface means for allowing the user to participate in the automated travel process that completes all activities required for entry into a country without the need for human intervention.

32. **(Original)** The system of Claim 31, wherein the automated user interface means includes:

first means for automatically performing check-in activities before crossing the border; and

second means for automatically performing clearance activities after crossing the border.